



Appendix B - Helpful Hints to Reading the *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan*

The *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan* has many goals, policies, and strategies to help City government make decisions about its future direction. The number of them can seem overwhelming at first.

The difference between a goal, a policy, or a strategy may be confusing. Which one is more important? There is no inherent difference in importance between a goal, a policy, or a strategy. As they appear in the *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan*, goals offer the most general guidance to decision makers. Policies are more detailed, and strategies are the most specific. Strategies provide the greatest direction on how the City intends to implement the goals and policies in the *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan*. The level of specificity among goals, policies, and strategies is not consistent throughout the document. For example, the strategies under one policy may be far more specific than the strategies under another.

There are several ways to read the *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan*. First, the introduction may be a good place to start for general information. It provides an overview of the document. It discusses how the City uses the *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan* in guiding decisions, and it highlights some of the changes the City has made as part of the latest update.

Second, the introductory paragraphs under each of the chapters provide more specific information about each of the topics, such as housing, transportation, and the role of government, in the *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan*. Third, reviewing all the goals and looking at the various maps provide a comprehensive scan of the document.

The *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan* does not include abbreviations or acronyms. Titles and names are written in full every time they appear in the document. However, people often use the abbreviations or acronyms when speaking. The following list may help the reader to decipher abbreviations and acronyms that people may use in discussing aspects of the *Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan*.

AAB	-	Airport Advisory Board
ADT	-	Average daily traffic
AIR	-	Annexation impact report
BEA	-	Board of Environmental Affairs
BOA	-	Board of Adjustment
CBD	-	Central business district
CDBG	-	Community Development Block Grant
CHFA	-	Colorado Housing and Finance Authority
CIF	-	Community investment fee
CIP	-	<i>Capital Improvement Program</i>
CIS	-	Comprehensive impact statement
DDA	-	Longmont Downtown Development Authority
DRCOG	-	Denver Regional Council of Governments
FAR	-	Floor area ratio
HOA	-	Homeowners association



HRC	-	Human Relations Commission
IBC	-	International Building Code
IGA	-	Intergovernmental agreement
LACP	-	<i>Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan</i>
LAEC	-	Longmont Area Economic Development Council
LDC	-	Landmark Designation Commission
LOS	-	Level of service
LPA	-	Longmont Planning Area
MSA	-	Municipal Service Area
NUPUD	-	Nonurban planned unit development
PRAB	-	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
PUD	-	Planned unit development
P/Z	-	Planning and Zoning Commission
RMS	-	<i>Resource Management System Study</i>
RTD	-	Regional Transportation District
SVVPA	-	St. Vrain Valley Planning Area
SVVSD	-	St. Vrain Valley School District
TAB	-	Transportation Advisory Board
TDM	-	Transportation demand management
TDR	-	Transferred development rights
UGB/A	-	Urban Growth Boundary/Area
V/C	-	Volume-to-capacity ratio
VMT	-	Vehicle miles traveled